

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims for this application.

Claims 1 – 74 (Canceled)

75. (New) A drug delivery device for orienting and positioning a capsule containing a dry powder pharmaceutical formulation to be administered via inhalation to a patient afflicted with a pulmonary disease or disorder, comprising:

a dispensing chamber containing a capsule of the dry powder pharmaceutical formulation;

a tube for receiving the capsule to be oriented and dispensed;

a ramp surface extending substantially across the tube from one wall to an opposite wall thereof;

and

an elongate dispensing passage having a diameter less than that of the tube and sized to receive the capsule only when the elongate axis of the capsule is generally parallel to the axis of the passage, the passage extending from an inlet end formed by an aperture in the ramp's surface to a dispensing outlet, the passage being adjacent to one wall of the tube such that the axis of the passage is parallel to, but radially offset from, an axis of the tube,

whereby when the inhaler is positioned with the passage below the tube and the axis of the passage is substantially vertical, a capsule located in the tube is guided by the ramp surface towards the inlet end of the passage,

wherein the pharmaceutical formulation is comprised of a therapeutically effective amount of a short-acting bronchodilator and a therapeutically effective amount of a corticosteroid.

76. (New) The drug delivery device of claim 75, wherein the short-acting bronchodilator is selected from the group consisting of albuterol, bitolterol, clenbuterol, fenoterol, levalbuterol, metaproterenol, pirbuterol, procaterol, reproterol, rimiterol, terbutaline, derivatives thereof, pharmacologically acceptable salts and esters thereof, and combinations of any of the foregoing.

77. (New) The drug delivery device of claim 75, wherein the corticosteroid is selected from the group consisting of mometasone and pharmacologically acceptable salts, esters, and derivatives thereof.

78. (New) The drug delivery device of claim 75, wherein the pulmonary disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of asthma, exercise-induced asthma, bronchitis, bronchospasm, rhinitis, and emphysema.